IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

MACKENZIE BONNER

Claimant

APPEAL 21A-UI-15620-S2-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 03/29/20

Claimant: Appellant (1R)

PL116-136, Sec. 2104(f)(2) – Overpayment of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant Mackenzie Bonner appealed a representative's decision dated July 9, 2021 (reference 04), that concluded the claimant was overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation ("FPUC") benefits as a result of a disqualification decision. After a hearing notice was mailed to the claimant's last-known address of record, a telephone hearing was held on September 1, 2021. The claimant participated personally. Tom Bonner observed. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant is overpaid FPUC benefits.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: On August 26, 2020, Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) issued a decision (reference 01) that denied claimant unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. That decision has been affirmed. See 21A-UI-12176-B2-T. Claimant has received FPUC benefits in the gross amount of \$10,200.00 for the seventeen-week period ending July 25, 2021.

June 12, 2021, claimant a decision was issued denying claimant's application for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits. Claimant appealed that decision, and on August 2, 2021, an administrative law judge issued a decision reversing that decision and allowing PUA benefits. It does not appear that those funds have been released. Whether claimant's PUA benefits may be used to offset claimant's regular unemployment insurance benefit overpayment has not been reviewed by IWD Benefits Bureau.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the following reasons the administrative law judge concludes the claimant was overpaid FPUC benefits for the period in question.

PL116-136, Sec. 2104 provides, in pertinent part:

- (b) Provisions of Agreement
- (1) Federal pandemic unemployment compensation.--Any agreement under this section shall provide that the State agency of the State will make payments of regular compensation to individuals in amounts and to the extent that they would be determined if the State law of the State were applied, with respect to any week for which the individual is (disregarding this section) otherwise entitled under the State law to receive regular compensation, as if such State law had been modified in a manner such that the amount of regular compensation (including dependents' allowances) payable for any week shall be equal to
- (A) the amount determined under the State law (before the application of this paragraph), plus
- (B) an additional amount of \$600 (in this section referred to as "Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation").

. . . .

- (f) Fraud and Overpayments
- (2) Repayment.--In the case of individuals who have received amounts of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to which they were not entitled, the State shall require such individuals to repay the amounts of such Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to the State agency...

The decision that denied claimant regular unemployment insurance benefits remains in effect. Because claimant is not eligible for UI benefits, claimant is also not eligible for FPUC benefits. Therefore, claimant has received FPUC benefits to which they were not entitled. The administrative law judge concludes that claimant has been overpaid FPUC benefits in the amount outlined in the findings of fact above. Those benefits must be recovered in accordance with lowa law.

The issue of whether claimant's PUA benefits may be used to offset her regular unemployment insurance benefit overpayment shall be remanded to the IWD Benefits Bureau.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated July 9, 2021, (reference 04) is affirmed. Claimant has been overpaid FPUC benefits in the amount of \$10,200.00, which must be repaid.

REMAND:

This matter is remanded to the Benefits Bureau of Iowa Workforce Development for release of PUA (federal) funds and to recover the overpayment of regular benefits from the PUA (federal) benefits claimant is owed.

Stephanie Adkisson

Administrative Law Judge

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September 7, 2021

Decision Dated and Mailed

sa/kmj

NOTE TO CLAIMANT:

- This decision determines you have been overpaid FPUC benefits. If you disagree with this decision, you may file an appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by following the instructions on the first page of this decision.
- You may also request a waiver of this overpayment. The written request must include the following information:
 - 1. Claimant name & address.
 - 2. Decision number/date of decision.
 - 3. Dollar amount of overpayment requested for waiver.
 - 4. Relevant facts that you feel would justify a waiver.
- The request should be sent to:

Iowa Workforce Development Overpayment waiver request 1000 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 50319

- This Information can also be found on the Iowa Workforce Development website at: https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-overpayment-and-recovery.
- If this decision becomes final and you are not eligible for a waiver, you will have to repay the benefits you received.